GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4400
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2016
MSD Programme for Minorities in Kerala
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Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether not even a single district has been identified for Multi Sectoral Development (MSD) programme for minorities in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the criteria adopted in selecting the above districts?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) & (b) Under the restructured Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP), the unit of planning is Minority Concentration Blocks(MCBs), Minority Concentration Towns (MCTs) and cluster of minority concentration villages. The Ministry has identified four Minority Concentration Blocks namely Panamaram, Mananthavady, Kalpetta and Sulthanbathery and one Minority Concentration Town namely Ponnani falling under Wayanad and Malappuram District respectively.

(c) For identification of MCBs, MCTs and clusters of minority concentration villages following criteria is adopted as per existing guidelines:-

(i) Blocks with a minimum of 25% minority population falling in the backward districts selected on the basis of backwardness parameters adopted during 11th Five Year Plan, have been identified as the backward Minority Concentration Blocks (MCBs). In case of 6 States (Lakshadweep, Punjab, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Jammu & Kashmir), where a minority community is in majority, a lower cut-off of 15% of minority population, other than that of the minority community in majority in that State/UT, have been adopted. The backwardness parameters adopted for identification of the backward districts (same as the one adopted during 11th Five Year Plan) are:
(a) religion-specific socio-economic indicators at the district level-
(i) literacy rate;
(ii) female literacy rate;
(iii) work participation rate; and
(iv) female work participation rate; and
(b) basic amenities indicators at the district level-
(i) percentage of households with pucca walls;
(ii) percentage of households with safe drinking water;
(iii) percentage of households with electricity;

(ii) Further, within the blocks of backward districts not selected as MCBs, cluster of contiguous minority concentration villages (having at least 50% minority population) may be identified. In case of hilly areas of North Eastern States, such villages having minority's population of 25% may be identified. About 500 villages which are falling outside the minority concentration blocks, may be covered through such clusters. Identification of the clusters fulfilling the above criteria is done by the States/UTs. The identified clusters are recommended by the State Level Committee to the Empowered Committee for its final selection for implementation of the programme. The Empowered Committee finalises the selection of the cluster and also fixes the allocation for each cluster for the 12th Five Year Plan.

(Ill) Moreover, Towns/cities with a minimum of 25% minority population (in case of 6 States/UTs, 15% of minority population, other than that of the minority community in majority in that State/UT) having both socio-economic and basic amenities parameters below national average, have been identified as Minority Concentration Towns/Cities for the implementation of the programme.

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